

A. L. Burruss Nature Park

Located on South Cobb Parkway proximate to Dobbins AFB, A.L. Burruss Nature Park is a heavily wooded site containing a creek and is accessible from a parking lot. Within the park are unique natural areas and an extensive trail system. A recent addition in the fall of 2009 was the opening of a portion of the trails to off-road bicycles. This was done in partnership with the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association (SORBA).

Draft Plan Recommendations

A.L. Burruss Nature Park

- Refurbish existing trail
- Extend trail system
- Nature trail with interpretive facilities
- Pedestrian bridge
- Group pavilion
- Day-use area
- Off-road bike trail (Initial trails opened fall 2009)
- Paving improvements and additional parking spaces
- Restroom building
- Park lighting
- Remove trees near entrance for improved visibility and traffic safety (completed fall 2009)

Notes and Observations

Alexander Pocket Park

A triangular property that has not yet been developed. It is bordered by Alexander Street, Frasier Street and South Marietta Parkway.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Notes and Observations

Aviation Baseball/Softball Complex

Located on Aviation Road just south of the South Loop, this complex consists of three athletic fields that accommodate softball, football and soccer. The baseball field was previously leased to the school district, and has been subleased for football and soccer. That contract has expired and the baseball field is now controlled by the Parks, Recreation and Facilities Department. The site is at the top of a small hill and the layout could be improved. The site has limited access and has the potential for high utilization.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Aviation Park

Aviation Park has been offered to potential lessees through a Request for Proposal process for operation of the athletic facilities. The City Council is in the process of determining if the property will be used in this manner. In the event the facility is not leased, it may be improved or adapted for other uses.

Notes and Observations

Birney Park

Located northeast of the downtown area just west of Fairground Street, Birney Street Park is a narrow parcel bisected by a stream. The northern portion is undeveloped and needs pedestrian access. Adjacent residents are using the north portion of the park as a road. Utilization of this park is low due primarily to a lack of facilities at the site and few parking spaces.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Birney Street Park

- Replace pavilion roof
- Add play equipment
- Construct pedestrian bridge
- ADA accessibility

Notes and Observations

Brown Park

Brown Park is situated on West Atlanta Street, north of the Confederate Cemetery close to the intersection of North Marietta Parkway and Powder Springs Road. The park is passive in character, well landscaped, and the gazebo is used for wedding ceremonies. Utilization is low to moderate. Anticipated improvements include a bike path and trail head, a memorial wall, historic sculptures, and the starting point for an interpretative tour through the Confederate and City Cemeteries.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Brown Park

- Assist the Friends of Brown Park as needed to implement the Brown Park/Confederate Cemetery master plan

Notes and Observations

Custer Park

Located in northeast Marietta, Custer Park (10 acres) contains athletic facilities including two baseball fields and a soccer field. Youth baseball programs, and both youth and adult soccer programs are offered at this site. Support facilities include concessions, restrooms and a scorer's building. Utilization of Custer Park is moderate to heavy on a seasonal basis.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Custer Park

Custer Park should be modified to better locate active facilities. This would require preparation of a park master plan that would accomplish reconfiguration. If the PRFD intends to out-source athletic programs at this site, the ball fields and soccer field should be retained. The suggested program is as follows:

- Two lighted ball fields
- A lighted soccer pod allowing for various configurations
- A playground
- Pavilion
- Walking trail
- Concessions/scorer's/restroom building
- 150 parking spaces

Notes and Observations

Elizabeth Porter Center

The Elizabeth Porter Center is located on Montgomery Street, just north of downtown. The site contains a recreation center with an indoor basketball court, game room, and a small meeting space. Two lighted tennis courts and a playground are located outdoors.

Draft Plan Recommendations

As the existing building will incur excessive costs for repairs and upgrading, it is proposed that the Elizabeth Porter Center site could be expanded and that the building be renovated and expanded into a large recreation center. The adjacent site containing approximately four acres should be acquired which will expand the site area to approximately six acres.

Possible building renovation and expansion could be accomplished that will result in an approximate 25,000 square foot recreation center. This center, when completed, should contain two gymnasiums, a game room, meeting room(s), kitchen, restrooms, lockers, and storage space.

The tennis courts would remain and additional playground equipment would be added to the site.

Notes and Observations

Flournoy Park

Located at the intersection of Roswell Street and Haynes Street adjacent to the Cobb County Courthouse in the downtown area, Flournoy Park is accessible on foot from a sidewalk. The site is level and utilization is low to moderate. The site is in need of maintenance and planned improvements include new sidewalks and landscaping funded by the SPLOST program.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Flournoy Park

- Add sidewalks
- Landscaping

Notes and Observations

Gantt Park

Gantt Park is a landscaped triangle located northwest of downtown at the intersection of Maple Avenue and Holland Street. The park is accessible on foot, via a sidewalk. The park receives low utilization.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Notes and Observations

Glover Park

Glover Park is the focal point of downtown Marietta. It is the site of many special events, concerts, weddings and other downtown activities. The site is well landscaped and well maintained. There are entry points at each corner and at mid-block. Utilization is high. Planned improvements include replacement of brick pavers.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Glover Park

- Replace tree canopy as needed
- Repair brick pavers (pavers were replaced 2009, ongoing maintenance required)
- Shade structure over playground area

Notes and Observations

Gramling Street Park

Gramling Street Park is a small wooded site that is bisected by a creek. Located south of downtown close to the intersection of Gramling Street and Bolan Street, this park receives low utilization.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Gramling Street Park

- Add play equipment
- Walking trail and linkage
- Landscaping

Notes and Observations

Henry Memorial Park

Henry Memorial Park was recently redeveloped. The park is located on a level site at the intersection of Henry Drive and Reynolds Street north of the City Club. The park contains both active and passive facilities.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Henry Park

- Park Renovation completed 2008
- Restroom Facility

Notes and Observations

Hickory Hills Park

Located in southwest Marietta, Hickory Hills Park serves a large residential area. The site is relatively level and is dominated by two large open grassed fields with a perimeter walking trail. There is a vacant parcel adjoining on the north, which is presently school property. Utilization is moderate to high, with the fields used for free-play activities such as soccer. This site has excellent potential for the inclusion of new facilities that would meet much of the recreational demand of the community residents.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Hickory Hills Park

- Two age- separated playgrounds
- Two grassed playfields
- One multi-purpose athletic field
- Two picnic shelters
- A .6 mile walking trail
- A restroom/storage building
- 110 parking spaces

Notes and Observations

Hill Park

Located just east of the square at the intersection of Lemon Street and Waddell Street, this small well-landscaped area is attractive and accessible from the adjacent sidewalk. The level site is well maintained by volunteer labor. Utilization is low.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Hill Park

- Install chess tables

Notes and Observations

Lake Park

Lake Park is linear in character, extending along Lake Drive north of the South 120 Loop. The park occupies a wooded site, parallels a stream bank, contains minimal improvements and receives low utilization. Accessibility is severely limited by a lack of parking and no sidewalks. Erosion control along the stream bank is an issue.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Lake Park

- Install benches
- Landscaping
- Install play equipment if space allows

Notes and Observations

Laurel Park

Laurel Park is located off of Manning Road in the western portion of the city, just across from Mountain View Park Cemetery. Site topography is level to rolling with two medium size ponds and a grassy meadow. A portion of the site is heavily wooded.

The park offers users a wide range of recreational opportunities, including both active and passive pursuits. The park has good accessibility from adjacent neighborhoods and receives heavy utilization.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Laurel Park

- Replace fencing at tennis courts (completed 2008)
- Replace tennis court lighting
- Install viewing areas at tennis courts
- Pond and drainage improvements (spillway improvements funded with non-bond funds and will bid soon)
- Install trail lighting

Notes and Observations

Lawrence Street Recreation Center

This facility is comprised of a recreation center with a basketball court, small game room and a fairly large kitchen, an outdoor swimming pool, and a small playground. Utilization of the recreation center is high, but low for the swimming pool with the exception of City Schools and PRFD day camp users. The pool has been closed for two years because the mechanical/plumbing system needs to be entirely rebuilt. The repairs will essentially require a complete rebuild of the pool deck, too.

Draft Plan Recommendations

The Lawrence Street Recreation Center is limited in its use, and its proximity to the Elizabeth Porter center allows for unnecessary duplication of some indoor facilities. In addition, the swimming pool infrastructure will require a large capital outlay to remain operational. It is suggested that the Lawrence Street Recreation Center site be cleared and replaced with a 3,500 square foot community center, a sprayground, and playground equipment.

Notes and Observations

Lewis Park

Lewis Park is a very attractive park that contains a large number of recreational facilities for its size. The park is located on Campbell Street in northern Marietta on a rolling site. The southeast portion of the park contains trees and landscaping. The ball field is used for practice only. Utilization of Lewis Park is moderate/heavy. Recent improvements, including an improved parking lot and installation of a new playground, funded in part by a private donation were completed in 2009.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Lewis Park

- Replace play equipment utilizing matching funds provided by donor (completed 2009)
- Add dog park amenities to open leash area
- Restroom building
- Add drinking fountains
- Pave parking area adjacent to tennis courts (completed 2009)

Notes and Observations

Merritt Park

Merritt Park is located east of Interstate 75 on Wallace Road. The site area is small and utilization is moderate. The park is located within a meadow and facilities are ADA accessible. A large rock outcrop limits the width of the entryway. Improvements currently planned and funded include modification of the park entrance, renovations to the parking lot, and removal of the tennis courts to be replaced by a grassy area.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Merritt Park

- Extend walking trail
- Entryway improvements
- Small restroom facility
- Paving of driveway and parking lot

Notes and Observations

Monarch Park

Monarch Parks consists of two small adjacent parcels proximate to the intersection of Kennesaw Avenue and Church Street in downtown Marietta. The park is accessible to foot traffic and is well landscaped. Utilization is low.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Notes and Observations

Victory Park

Located in eastern Marietta on North Park Drive, Victory Park is linear in appearance and is located on either side of Victory Drive. The park contains a small stream, and thanks to a new playground receives moderate utilization. The tennis courts are in need of replacement or removal.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Victory Park

- Remove tennis courts or rebuild if agreement cannot be reached at the 6th Grade Annex
- Extend walking trail
- Landscaping and conversation area
- Restroom Facility

Notes and Observations

West Dixie Park

This park is located on West Dixie Avenue, just east of the City Club. Parking is very limited and hence utilization of this park is low. There is a stream on the property and noticeable erosion. Some of the facilities are in need of maintenance.

Draft Plan Recommendations

West Dixie Park

- Add play equipment
- Walking trail
- Landscaping

Notes and Observations

Whitaker Park

Whitaker Park is located in northeast Marietta, to the east of Interstate 75. The site is characterized by rolling topography, is attractive and well landscaped. The land was acquired by donation from the developer of a neighboring subdivision and is the newest developed park in the City. Facilities are predominantly passive-use and parking is available on-site. The park receives high utilization.

Draft Plan Recommendations**Whitaker Park**

- Shade structure over playground area
- Restroom building

Notes and Observations

Wildwood Park

Wildwood Park is located on Barclay Circle north of A. L. Burruss Nature Park. This site was surplus Federal property, is wooded and contains hiking and jogging trails and picnicking facilities. A dog park is slated to open in late 2009 or early 2010.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Wildwood Park

- Dog park (under construction to be completed by January 2010)
- Large grassed playfield
- Two volleyball courts
- Two picnic shelters
- Two age-separated playgrounds
- Horseshoe pits
- Refurbish existing walking trails
- Repair foot bridges as necessary
- Restroom building
- A maintenance facility
- 100 parking spaces

Notes and Observations

Woods Park

Located to the northeast of the square, Woods Park is accessible by sidewalk and contains trees and landscaping. Additional landscaping is needed and the PRFD anticipates site improvements. Utilization of this park is low.

Draft Plan Recommendations

Woods Park

- Landscaping

Notes and Observations